

A Brief History of the Glen Oaks Town Forest

Starting in 1960, Oakes Kent Lawrence, Jr, started acquiring land piece by piece from different owners as each lot came up for sale. He eventually accumulated 338 acres in a parcel known as Glen Oaks. Much of the land he purchased was heavily cut-over woodland. Mr. Lawrence enjoyed the land and applied good forest management practices over his four decades of ownership.

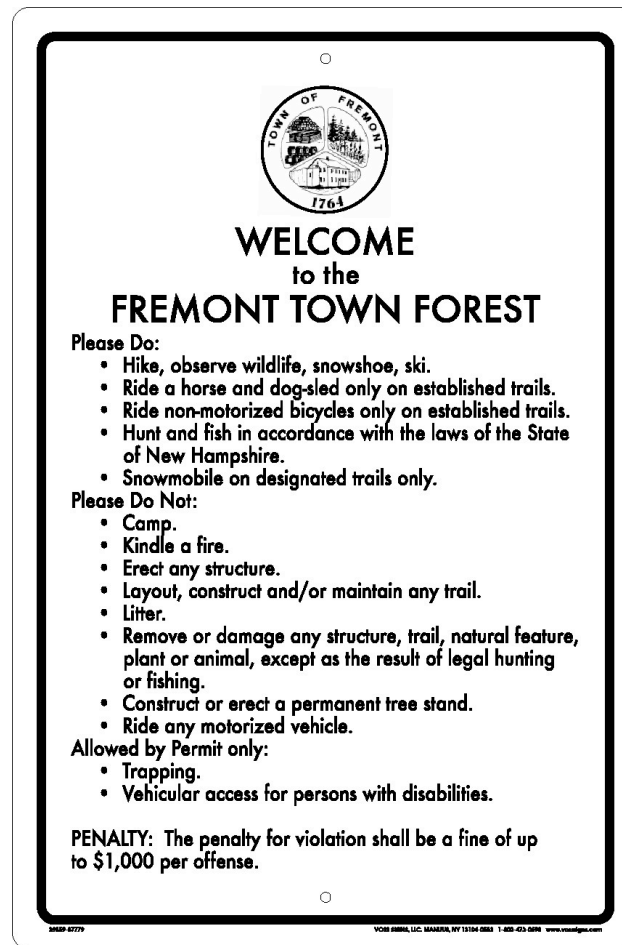
Mr. Lawrence, along with his family, wanted to conserve most of the property as forested land. Working with the Society For The Protection of New Hampshire Forests (SPNHF) and the Town of Fremont over a period of two years (2003-2005), the Lawrence family sold 313 acres of the family land to the Town for conservation. On behalf of the town, SPNHF holds a conservation easement protecting this property from development.

Acquisition of Glen Oaks has substantially helped to protect the single most distinctive and valuable environmental feature in Fremont - the wetland complex known as *Spruce Swamp*. Conserving the upland forest from further development protects the health of this unique prime wetland by insuring its water quality and protecting its wildlife for future generations to enjoy.

In 2009, Charles A. Moreno, a Consulting Forester hired by the Town, completed a forest and wildlife management plan for Glen Oaks. The plan provides a baseline inventory of the forest's trees and wildlife along with recommendations for continued sustainable management.

Starting in 2009, volunteer residents worked hard to expand and improve the trail network to where it is today. It is the hope of the Conservation Commission and Open Space Committee of Fremont that you will enjoy the time you spend exploring this natural resource.

For a more detailed history see section 4.24 *The History of the Glen Oaks Property* in the Natural Resource Section of the Master Plan.



This trail guide is available for downloading in .pdf format at <http://www.fremont.nh.gov/> on the Conservation Commission page.

September 2010

GLEN OAKES TOWN FOREST

A Guide To Its Trails



Town of Fremont , NH



Directions: Take route 107 to Copp Drive, located on the north side of route 107. Proceed on Copp Drive to Andreski Drive. Turn left onto Andreski Drive. At the end of Andreski Drive you will find ample parking in a dirt turn around.

Welcome to Glen Oaks Town Forest

This Town Forest contains 313 acres of community-owned woodland and wetlands for you to enjoy. Its varied landscape offers a wide variety of wildlife habitats to explore. Please do your part to protect it. Take only pictures and leave only footprints.

THE TRAILS

The trails in Glen Oaks Town Forest are a mixture of old logging or country roads and woodland paths. Explore them by hiking, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, and mountain biking. Note that there are small sections that may be wet at times and therefore more difficult to traverse. Proper precautions to ward off mosquitoes and ticks should be taken.

Easy Trails – These trails are wide and obvious. All major intersections have signs.

The LINK TRAIL – This trail connects the parking lot on Andreski Drive with the rest of the trail network. It is about 0.1 mile to where the Homestead Trail heads into the forest canopy on the right. Another 300 ft down the Link Trail is the Forest Loop Trail.

FOREST LOOP TRAIL– As the name suggests, this trails makes a loop in Glen Oaks. It is about 1.0 mile in length. It is generally flat but has some moderate slopes to negotiate.

Moderate Trails – These trails are a mixture of wide, well worn paths, and new woodland trails. You may have to balance on a rock or two as you cross some of its small streams. The new sections are marked with lime green blazes. Watch for small arrows at key turns.

WOODLAND TRAIL – The Woodland Trail leaves the Forest Loop in the NE corner of Glen Oaks. The first 100 yards follow an old road, then the trail quickly turns to the south entering the forest canopy. The next 0.4 mile is an adventure, crossing three streams, encountering glacial erratics (big boulders), and numerous twists and turns before coming out from under the forest canopy onto an old road. Here the trail turns north for the last 0.1 mile to where it meets the Forest Loop Trail.

HOMESTEAD TRAIL – This trail is 0.6 mile long and makes a nice loop with part of the Forest Loop Trail. It leaves the Link Trail about 0.1 mile from the parking lot. The first section meanders in the woods for about 0.4 mile. There are numerous twists and turns and an adventuresome water crossing or two. It exits the woods very close to the southern border of Glen Oaks where the last 0.2 mile follows an old road to reach the intersection with the Forest Loop Trail.

